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PAGE 01 OUAGAD 06300 282303Z
ACTION AF-10
INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 ARA-12 EUR-12 OMB-01 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-07 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01
SPRS-02 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00
INRE-00 TRSE-00 AID-07 PC-01 OC-06 CCO-00 USSS-00
A-02 ACDA-12 CA-01 DCT-02 SY-05 SYE-00 HA-06
OPR-02 COME-00 EB-08 IO-14 OCS-06 STR-10 XMB-02
OPIC-07 /068 W
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FM AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6678
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY BAMAKO
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY CONAKRY
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY PARIS
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BOGOTA FOR AMBASSADOR; CONAKRY FOR KILLION; LONDON FOR
LANPHER; PARIS FOR MURPHY
E.O. 12065: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, UV
SUBJECT: UPDATE ON MILITARY TAKEOVER IN UPPER VOLTA
1. COL ZERBO SUMMONED DIPLOMATIC CORPS TO PRESIDENTIAL
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PAGE 02 OUAGAD 06300 282303Z
PALACE FOR MEETING AT 1000 HRS ZULU NOV 28. RESIDENT SENIOR
REPRESENTATIVES OF DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS IN UPPER VOLTA WERE
PRESENT. REPRESENTATIVES OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
WERE NOT PRESENT. COL ZERBO DELIVERED BRIEF ADDRESS IN WHICH
HE STATED THAT THE MILITARY COMMITTEE OR REFORM FOR NATIONAL
PROGRESS (CMRPN) TOOK POWER BECAUSE THE POLITICAL AND
ECONOMIC SITUATION HAD DISINTEGRATED TO SUCH A POINT THAT
AUTHORITIES WERE UNABLE TO GOVERN THE NATION. HE DECLARED
THAT THE NEW REGIME WOULD RESPECT ALL INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS
AND ITS FOREIGN POLICY WOULD BE BASED ON THE PRINCIPLES OF
THE UNITED NATIONS CHARTER AND THAT OF REGIONAL AND SUBREGIONAL
ORGANIZATIONS OF WHICH UPPER VOLTA IS A MEMBER. NON-ALIGNMENT
WILL BE THE GUIDING PRINCIPLE. COL ZERBO WAS INTRODUCED TO
EACH DIPLOMAT PRESENT. MEMBERS OF THE CMRPN STEERING COMMITTEE
LTC TIENTARABOUM, LTC COMBASSERE, LTC NEZIEN AND LTC SANFO
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/GDC/ER
REVIEWED BY EB DATE 8 MAR 1982
RDS[ ] or XDS[ ] EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. E.O.(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS [ ]
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WERE ALSO INTRODUCED. THE MEETING LASTED 15 MINUTES.
2. OUAGADOUGOU RADIO ANNOUNCED THIS MORNING THE APPOINTMENT OF QUARTERMASTER GWAMA OUEDRAOGO AS ACTING HEAD OF THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE. IT ALSO CARRIED THE TEXT OF TELEGRAMS OF SUPPORT FROM VOLTANS IN VARIOUS WALKS OF LIFE THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY. THE MOST PROMINENT TELEGRAM WAS THAT FROM FORMER HEAD OF STATE MAURICE YAMEOGO WHO LAUDED THE CMRPN FOR ITS "COURAGEOUS INTERVENTION TO SAVE THE COUNTRY". THE RADIO FURTHER ANNOUNCED THAT THE DECEMBER 11 NATIONAL DAY WILL BE CELEBRATED IN AN AUSTERE FASHION WITH JUST A SPEECH TO THE NATION AND A BRIEF PRESENTATION OF ARMS.
3. ACCORDING TO HIS BROTHER (EMPLOYEE OF THE EMBASSY), FORMER NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT GERARD KANGO OUEDRAOGO WAS PICKED UP ON NOV 25 AND IS NOW INTERNED IN A NEW MILITARY CAMP ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF OUAGADOUGOU. HIS FAMILY VISITED HIM YESTERDAY AND FOUND HIM IN GOOD HEALTH. THERE

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WILL REPORTEDLY BE AN INQUIRY INTO HIS ACTIVITIES WHILE PRESIBNT OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. REPORTS INDICATE THAT GERARD KANGO IS NOT THE ONLY MEMBER OF THE OUSTED REGIME CURRENTLY LODGING AT THE MILITARY CAMP. EMBASSY HAS LEARNED FROM FAMILY MEMBERS THAT FORMER MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS MAHAMADOU OUEDRAOGO AND FORMER MINISTER OF POSTS PAUL OUEDRAOGO ARE BOTH BEING HELD IN MILITARY CAMP. PRESS REPORTS CONFIRM RUMORS THAT UPON RETURN FROM ABIDJAN NOV 27 FORMER MINISTER OF HEALTH TINGA DOUAMBA WAS ESCORTED FROM TRAIN STATION DIRECTLY TO MILITARY CAMP. WE BELIEVE THAT OTHER SENIOR OFFICIALS ARE ALSO EITHER UNDER HOUSE ARREST OR INTERNED IN MILITARY CAMP. EXCEPTION IS GEORGES SANOGOH WHO WAS ON OFFICIAL TRIP IN NETHERLANDS AT TIME OF TAKEOVER.
4. LOCAL ATMOSPHERE IS GENERALLY RELAXED. IT IS APPARENT THAT THE TEACHERS, UNIONS, MANY BUSINESSMEN AND OPPOSITION POLITICIANS EMBRACED THE MILITARY TAKEOVER WITH OPEN ARMS. TROOP PRESENCE HAS BEEN DRASTICALLY REDUCED IN OUAGADOUGOU, AND EXCEPT FOR IDENTITY CHECKS FOR PEOPLE ENTEGUNG AND LEAVING URBAN AREAS, CROSS-COUNTRY TRAVEL PROCEEDS SMOOTHLY. THE BORDERS AREOPEN. THE 1900-0600 HRS CURFEW REMAINS STRICTLY IN FORCE AND OFFICIALS AT THE SURETE HAVE INDICATED THAT THERE IS A POSSIBILITY A TRAVEL PASS PROGRAM WILL BE INSTITUTED. THE AIRPORT REMAINS CLOSED BUT AIRPORT AND AIRLINE OFFICIALS ARE OPTIMISTIC THAT IT WILL BE OPENING SOON, PERHAPS IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS. GRAHL
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